

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 1 and replaces the original sheet with Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 5 are amended for clarification purposes only, and claim 9 is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Zhong and Primary Examiner Dinh during the February 1, 2005 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to Fig. 1. Fig. 1 is amended. Thus, withdrawal of the objection to Fig. 1 is requested.

The Office Action objects to the Abstract. The Abstract is amended. Thus, withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 5 are amended to obviate the rejection. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Boucher (U.S. Patent No. 6,434,620); and claims 4, 5, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Boucher in view of "Official Notice." The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, Boucher does not disclose or suggest an IP address setting device, including at least a setting packet transmission unit that transmits a setting packet to the particular multicast address, the setting packet including the address information set by the address information designation unit and the MAC address included in the response of the corresponding node, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 6 and 9.

Specifically, Boucher discloses an intelligent network interface card that works with a host computer for data communication.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Boucher does not disclose or suggest an IP address setting device, including at least a setting packet transmission unit that transmits a setting packet to the particular multicast address, the setting packet including the address information set by the address information designation unit and the MAC address included in the response of the corresponding node. On the contrary, the Examiners agreed during the personal interview that Boucher does not teach these features.

Thus, Boucher fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention. Because it also would not have been obvious to modify Boucher to arrive at the claimed invention, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RSE

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Abstract
Replacement Sheet

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